Approved For Release 2006/02/27 : CIA-RDP80-00810A002200100023-1

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.	25X1
SUBJECT	Chinese Communist Educational Administration and Student Activities in Canton	DATE DISTR.	4 September 1953
25X1		NO. OF PAGES	3
		REQUIREMENT NO.	25X1
		REFERENCES	

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Changes in Chinese Communist Educational Administration

1. In early 1953 schools of higher education in the Canton area had been placed under the supervision of commissioners from the Ministry of Education and the Educational Department of the Central and South China Administrative Committee. Many colleges and universities were ordered to amalgamate or to close. The following were exempt:

   a. Chungshan (0022/1472) University. This school was at the site of the former Lingnan University in Canton.[1] It had colleges of art, law, science, and commerce. Its president was KU Ta-ts'un (0657/1129/1317) and its vice-president was CH'EN Hsu-ching (7115/1645/4842).

   b. South China Engineering College.[2] This college was at the site of the former Chungshan University at Shihpei, Canton. Its superintendent was LO Ming-lu (5012/2494/1774).

   c. South China Medical College. This was at the Ta Chung (1129/0022) Hospital on Pai Tzu (4102/1311) Road, Canton.

   d. South China Agricultural College.[2]

   e. South China Teachers College.[2]

2. All colleges and universities in Canton by April 1953 had issued to each of their students a student identification card made of thick red paper, bearing the holder's photograph and stamped with the school's official steel seal. The identification card for the South China Engineering College, for example, included a serial number; the student's photograph; name; age; native place; his college and department; and the name of the head of his department.

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3. Under Chinese Communist policy in early 1953, everything was furnished to a student free of charge. New students were admitted to colleges or universities, not according to the individual's choice or the grade he received in his entrance examination, but according to compulsory assignment to different departments by Communist authorities. Students were not permitted to transfer to another department in the middle of their college courses.

New Democratic Youth Corps

4. In technical colleges and universities in Canton the Chinese Communists by April 1953 had adopted a selective policy in winning over students for their New Democratic Youth Corps. Only those who had been under secret evaluation by Communist cadres or Corps members and had proven themselves of proper family and ideological background were acceptable, while those who applied for membership on their own initiative or who disguised themselves as progressive students were always rejected. By holding a membership in the Corps, one became eligible to join the Communist Party, and a student considered himself fortunate if he could be admitted to the Corps.

5. Members of the New Democratic Youth Corps penetrated each technical college or university in Canton as students. Chinese Communist cadres from different educational levels made up part of the freshmen who entered these schools and, under the guise of seeking advanced education, controlled the student body and kept watch on the thoughts and activities of students who were not Communists or members of the Youth Corps.

Student Activities

6. In about early 1953 Chinese Communist authorities ordered the colleges and universities in Canton to organize their students into many small groups which were expected to meet for half an hour every morning to study Chinese Communist booklets or newspapers, such as the Nan Fang Jih Pao. During the five-antis campaign, many students of the Engineering College were ordered to take part in activities to advance the confession movement by provoking shop owners to confess. Students of the South China Teachers College were those mainly ordered to take part in land reform work.

7. Chinese Communist authorities set up in each technical college or university in Canton a personnel office, responsible for student personnel management. Round trip permits to go to Hong Kong from Canton, applied for through these personnel offices to the local public security office, were approved and issued with surprising speed. Students who applied directly to a public security office found that a longer waiting period was necessary and that the process was more involved, two guarantors being required.

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1. [redacted] Comment. Lingnan University was merged with Chungshan (also known as Nanfang or Southern Direction University) in January 1952. [redacted],

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2. [redacted] Comment. According to available information [redacted] three newly reorganized colleges had opened in Canton in January 1953. [redacted] source described them as follows:

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a. South China Engineering Institute, at Shihpei, Canton; headed by HU Chin-chang (5170/6855/2490) and formed from the engineering schools of Chungshan University, South China Union University, Kwangsi Technological Institute, and the chemical engineering departments of Nanch'ang, Kwangsi, and Hunan Universities.

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b. South China Agricultural School, at the site of the old Chungshan University in Shihpei; headed by LI Lin-han (2621/2651/3352) and formed out of the agricultural colleges of Chungshan and Lingnan Universities.

c. South China Normal College, at Shihpei; headed by TU Kao-hsiang (2629/0948/1651) and reorganized from the old South China Normal College with the addition of the educational department of Lingnan University. The old college had previously combined, in September 1952, the normal school of Chungshan University and the educational department of the South China Union University.

These colleges are probably the same three referred to in paragraph 1 of the present report, despite the slight differences in terminology and the fact that two heads are reported for the engineering school. A great deal has come out in the Chinese Communist press concerning the reorganization of various schools and colleges in China since 1952. The establishment of the above three colleges, for example, was announced in a brief Canton news dispatch in the Hong Kong Ta Kung Pao of 15 January 1953.

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